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a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, said housing having a hole mounting a spacer therein, which maintains a distance between an original-holding plate of the image reader and said image sensor unit.

REMARKS

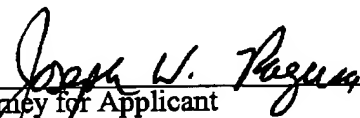
This is a divisional application of Application No. 09/203,510 filed December 1, 1998, which has issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,285,441.

Claims 11, 12 and 14-20 remain pending in this application. Claim 13 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 11, 15 and 17 are in independent form. Claims 11 and 15 have been amended to recited Applicant's invention more clearly, in the manner discussed with the Examiner in a telephone interview of September 17, 2002.

Entry of this Second Supplemental Preliminary Amendment and favorable consideration is earnestly requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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A.N. 09/892,409

Atty. Docket No. 03560.002296.1

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS**

11. (Amended) An image reader, comprising:

(a) a transparent plate adapted to contact an original;

(b) an image sensor unit including a light source adapted to illuminate the original, a reading element adapted to read an image of the original, and a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, said housing being a rectangular parallelepiped and having a shaft or a bearing, said shaft or said bearing being disposed so as to be parallel to said reading element and said shaft or said bearing being [disposed so as to be parallel to said reading element and said shaft or said bearing being] provided so as not to protrude from said rectangular parallelepiped;

(c) a holding member adapted to hold said image sensor unit; and

(d) a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the image of the original and said image sensor unit held by said holding member,

wherein said housing further comprises a hole mounting a spacer therein,  
which maintains a distance between said transparent plate and said image sensor unit.

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

15. (Amended) An image sensor unit mounted in an image reader,  
comprising:

a light source adapted to illuminate an original;

a reading element adapted to read an image of the original; and

a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element,

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said housing having a hole [adapted to mount thereto] mounting a spacer [for maintaining]  
therein, which maintains a distance between an original-holding plate of the image reader and  
said image sensor unit.

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